

Board Meeting Highlights
Regular Session
November 6, 2017

The Gates County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, November 6, 2017, at Buckland Elementary School. Chairman Felton called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. The following board members were present: Ray Felton, Glendale Boone, Leslie Byrum, Claire Whitehurst and Dr. Daniel Dickerson. Mr. Byrum made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel as outlined in North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6). The motion was seconded by Dr. Dickerson, and the board approved the motion unanimously. The Board entered into closed session at 5:03 p.m.

Mr. Felton reconvened open session at 6:00 p.m., with the following board members present: Ray Felton, Glendale Boone, Leslie Byrum, Claire Whitehurst and Dr. Daniel Dickerson.

Mrs. Boone made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Byrum seconded the motion, and the board members approved the motion unanimously.

There was a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments.

For the Academic Report, Mrs. Gail Hawkins, Principal at Buckland Elementary School, presented a video highlighting a day in the life of the Buckland Pandas.

Mrs. Ann Harrell, Career Development Coordinator for Gates County Schools, provided the NCWorks Health Care Career Pathways Award that was presented to Gates County Schools. This pathway meets the state's rigorous requirements for certification. This award recognizes the collaboration among workforce and education partners in the Northeast region, for implementing a comprehensive plan to prepare local job seekers for high-demand industries. This was a great honor for Gates County, and we are the first to receive the award in the state.

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Williams informed that he pursued, and was able to secure a \$2.5 million grant from the Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund, for Gates County Schools. These funds will help with the Central Middle School project. He commented on the HOSA event that was held at Gates County High School Saturday, November 4th, 2017, and congratulated Mrs. Lisa Ward for a job well done. He is pleased with the partnership with Albemarle Family YMCA to provide swimming lessons to our kindergarten students, which have already begun. He attended the fall festivals at the various schools, and thought everyone did a fantastic job. He and Mr. Ray Felton attended a workshop at UNC-Chapel Hill. The workshop was titled: Working Together: Counties, School Boards and Local Funding for Public Schools. They both found the training to be very informative. He and Mr. Leslie Byrum attended the Fall Law Conference, and were both impressed by the amount of information that was provided. There are lots of activities happening at the schools, such as Science on Stage, High Five Friday with county law enforcement and EMS staff, and the Dental Van is visiting the schools. It is a busy and productive time.

During the Report from the Board, Mr. Byrum commented on the new regulations regarding teacher contracts, and was concerned about the challenges these will present for our principals. He also thought the Fall Law Conference was very informative. Other board members commented on various school events they had attended.

Mrs. Tammy Boone, Assistant Superintendent, read a letter from the Department of Public Instruction, which accompanied certificates for our schools. She highlighted the challenges our schools are facing and the dedication of the staff working to meet goals, and provide a quality education for our students. She presented the following certificates to principals: Mr. Scott Corrente – Gatesville Elementary – Met Growth for the 2016-2017 school year, Mr. Jeremy Wright – T.S. Cooper Elementary – Met Growth, Mrs. Gail Hawkins – Buckland Elementary – Exceeded Growth, and Mr. Jonathan Hayes – Gates County High School – Exceeded Growth. Mrs. Boone congratulated the recipients.

Mrs. Donna Winborne, CPA gave a brief review of the audit report, for which an unqualified opinion was given. The Governance Letter, issued by her firm, indicated no findings. She thanked Mr. Blanchard and his staff for a job well done.

Mr. Blanchard gave the Financial Report and provided an update on the New Beginnings Daycare. He is concerned about the profit margin for the daycare. A meeting has been scheduled with Dr. Simpson and the daycare staff to discuss this matter.

Dr. Williams approved the following Out-of-District Requests for the 2017-2018 school year:

- McKenna Peters to attend Central Middle School, pending payment of tuition and release from Hertford County Schools
- Jacob Zanzig to attend Gatesville Elementary School
- Madilyn Ashten Sorey to attend T.S. Cooper Elementary School

Mr. Felton informed that the schools and departments would be receiving funds to help with their staff holiday celebrations.

The following Consent Agenda Items were approved:

1. Approval of Minutes - October 2, 2017 Regular Session
2. Gatesville Elementary Jr. BETA Club Fundraiser
3. Exceptional Children Transportation Contracts
4. Buckland Out-of-State Field Trip to Portsmouth, VA
5. Budget Amendment No. 1 - Local Fund No. 2
6. Budget Amendment No. 1 - Local Fund No. 8
7. Budget Amendment No. 2 - State Funds
8. Motivational Speakers for Gatesville Elementary
9. Faith Force Organization Presentation at Gates County High School
10. T.S. Cooper Elementary School Improvement Plan
11. Buckland Elementary School Improvement Plan
12. Central Middle School Improvement Plan
13. Gatesville Elementary School Improvement Plan
14. Gates County High School Improvement Plan

The following personnel recommendations were approved:

1. Teacher
 - Alora Buxton – 7th Grade Social Studies Teacher – Central Middle School
2. Exceptional Children’s Teacher Assistant
 - Katron Greene – T.S. Cooper Elementary – 2017-18 One Year Grant
 - Lakesha Holley – EC Teacher Assistant Gatesville Elementary
 - Renee Nowell – EC Teacher Assistant – One on One Grant Funding at TS Cooper
3. School Nutrition Assistant
 - Deanna Heilbrun – Gatesville Elementary
4. Substitute Teachers
 - Iris Lassiter – Non-Certified
 - Renee Nowell – Non-Certified
5. Mentor
 - Deidra House – Central Middle School
6. Volunteers
 - Michelle Badgett – Gatesville Elementary
 - Vickey Layden – Gatesville Elementary
 - Alice Moore – T.S. Cooper Elementary
7. Transfers

Employee	From	To	Effective Date
Broughman, Michelle	Child Nutrition Substitute	Child Nutrition Assistant - GCHS	10/11/17
Pierce, Stephanie	Bus Driver - GCHS	Bus Driver - Buckland	10/16/17
Broughman, Michelle	Substitute Bus Driver	Bus Driver - GCHS	10/16/17

8. Gates County High School Coaches

- Katron Greene – Varsity Boys Assistant Basketball Coach
- Regina Bowen – Varsity Softball Coach

9. Resignations

- Betty Treadwell – Exceptional Children’s Teacher Assistant at Gatesville Elementary
- Trisha Walton – Assistant Principal at Gates County High School
- Brandon Matthews – JV Baseball Coach

10. Leave of Absence

- Ernestine Wilson – CMS Bus Driver

In Other Business the following items were discussed:

- The regular December session will be held at the Gates County Board of Education Central Office on Thursday, December 7, 2017 with closed session beginning at 5:00 p.m. and open session at 6:00 p.m.
- The Board will participate in the Annual Lions Club Christmas Parade in Gatesville on Saturday, December 9, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.
- All board members will be attending the NCSBA Annual Conference November 13-15, 2017 in Greensboro, NC

There being no further business, Mrs. Boone made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Whitehurst seconded the motion, and board members approved the motion unanimously. Chairman Felton adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.